

RADIO STAMPS  
by  
Neil Carleton

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Program 10

Introduction

Hello again and welcome to another edition of "Radio Stamps". You're tuned to the monthly program, heard around the world on shortwave, that's all about the fun of collecting stamps on the topic of radio. This program combines the fun of listening to international radio and collecting stamps about radio. Collecting radio stamps is another great way to enjoy the radio hobby.

Regular features on this program include descriptions of stamps to collect, and discussions of radio subjects on stamps. I also have contests to win radio stamps.

I hope you'll join me each month, here on HCJB. I also hope you'll write to me with your comments and news for the program. I'll give you my mailing address here in Almonte at the end of this feature.

Radio Stations on Stamps

On the last program the subject was radio listening on stamps. The examples I gave, from Hungary, St. Helena and Laos, were: soldiers listening to a wartime broadcast; children in a classroom listening to a school program; and a couple listening to radio on their multi-band portable receiver. This is program number 10 and the subject today returns to radio stations on stamps.

There is no television crew, bright lights or special guest here today, so this edition of "Radio Stamps" is being recorded in the usual way. On the last program it was a lot of fun to have Arlene Smith with me from channel 22, Maclean-Hunter Cable TV in Ottawa. From our interview, Arlene produced a TV feature for the national capital region, here in Canada, about the "Radio Stamps" show on HCJB, and the fun of listening to international radio on shortwave. A special thanks to Arlene for announcing the two winners for the "Radio Stamps" T-shirt contest. Congratulations again to Bjorn Fransson from Sweden, and Bill Farmer from Australia. They each won a great T-shirt with a large reproduction of a radio stamp on it.

Normally, the news on this program is about radio stamps that

have already been issued by countries from around the world. Unfortunately, advance information from official sources, about the issue of radio stamps, usually arrives well after the stamps have actually been released. If you have information, from your part of the world, about the planned issue of stamps on the topic of radio, please write and let me know so I can share it with all the other listeners of the "Radio Stamps" program, here on HCJB.

Today, on the subject of radio stations on stamps, I have a collecting tip for you. Although I don't have advance information, I predict there will be a commemorative postage stamp issued this spring, in 1991, perhaps in May, for the 30th anniversary of Radio Havana Cuba.

Since 1962, Cuba has issued a total of 9 stamps for this well known shortwave station. A set of 4 stamps was issued in 1962 for the inauguration of international broadcasting by Radio Havana Cuba. The design of this set features a globe, radio waves and tower, and the opening musical bar of the station's interval signal. These are the only stamps in the world I know of that illustrate the interval signal of a radio station.

Starting in 1971, a commemorative stamp has been issued for Radio Havana Cuba every 5 years. In 1971, for the 10th anniversary of the station, a set of 2 very colourful stamps was issued to emphasize the international aspect of the station's service. The design features the western and eastern hemispheres of the globe, and includes the station's RHC initials over a radio tower.

The 15th, 20th and 25th anniversaries of Radio Havana Cuba were celebrated with distinctive stamps in 1976, 1981 and 1986. This year, on May 1st, is the 30th anniversary of the station. Based on the issue of Cuban stamps in the past, it's likely that a commemorative stamp will be released for Radio Havana Cuba in 1991 too. If you see it, write with details and I'll include them in an upcoming program.

Here are the catalogue numbers of the 9 stamps issued so far for Radio Havana Cuba. These stamps would certainly make great additions to your collection of radio stations on stamps. These catalogue numbers are from the Stanley Gibbons stamp catalogue, published in the United Kingdom. The Scott catalogue of postage stamps, published in the United States, does not include Cuban stamps after 1961. The Stanley Gibbons catalogue numbers of the 4 stamps in 1962 are 1015, 1016, 1017 and 1018. The 1971 catalogue numbers are 1849 and 1850. The catalogue numbers for the 1976, 1981 and 1986 stamps are 2279, 2735 and 3172.

That's all for this program. As promised here's my mailing address. I'd be pleased to receive your comments and your news for the program: Neil Carleton, P.O. Box 1644, Almonte, Ontario, KOA 1A0, Canada. Until the next time, best wishes for good listening and collecting.